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Acting Chief, Economic Research Area

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THRU :Chief, D/S
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Cancellation of Project 47.1092A
Soviet Foreign Trade in Cement 1950-57

1. It is suggested that this project be dropped because of its present inadequacies and the appearance of new and reliable collateral data.

2. When this paper was written originally, over a year and a half ago, it was designed solely to fill a gap in the project The Cement Industry of the USSR 1950-60, which is now being printed. At that time there was an almost complete lack of data on Soviet imports from Communist China and the European Satellites and relatively little data on Soviet exports. The present paper was conceived as a supplement and contained the following Foreword: "This report surveys the available information [REDACTED] on Soviet foreign trade since 1950. Because no collateral information is included, this report should be used in conjunction with Section X, CIA/RR The Cement Industry in the USSR, 1950-60." Unfortunately this Foreword was dropped when the paper was updated to 1 May 1958.

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3. The main paper, which contains most of the analysis and conclusions, was also dated 1 May 1958, but contains more information on the Soviet trade picture, than was available when the paper was first written, and contains conclusions which are still valid at the present time.

4. In addition, since 1 May 1958 the USSR has released complete trade data for the years 1955-57, in two statistical compilations on foreign trade which this analyst considers reliable for cement trade figures. Therefore it is believed that a justification for the publication of the present project no longer exists.

5. However, if it is felt that a project on this subject is still of sufficient value to warrant publication, it will be necessary [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] for the collateral data which is now more complete. An allowance of between 50 and 100 hours of the analyst's time will probably be sufficient to recast this project.

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